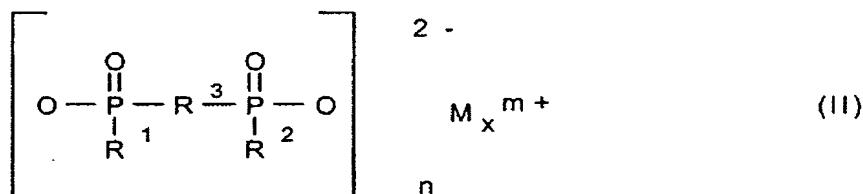
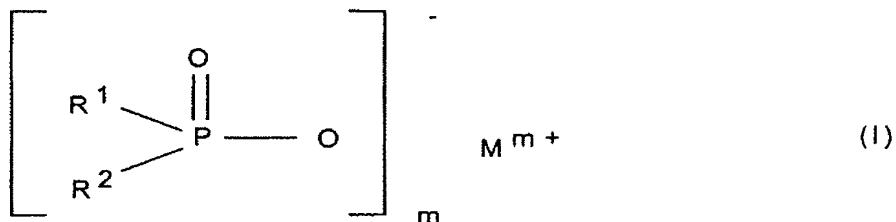


Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition which comprises, as comprising a flame retardant, at least one selected from the group consisting of a phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or, a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these, a polymer of the phosphinic salt of the formula (I), a polymer of the diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and mixtures thereof,



where

$\text{R}^1, \text{R}^2$  are identical or different and are  $\text{C}_1\text{-}\text{C}_6$ -alkyl, linear or branched, and/or aryl;

$\text{R}^3$  is  $\text{C}_1\text{-}\text{C}_{10}$ -alkylene, linear or branched,  $\text{C}_6\text{-}\text{C}_{10}$ -arylene, -alkylarylene or -arylalkylene;

$\text{M}$  is Mg, Ca, Al, Sb, Sn, Ge, Ti, Zn, Fe, Zr, Ce, Bi, Sr, Mn, Li, Na, K and/or a protonated nitrogen base;

$m$  is from 1 to 4;

n is from 1 to 4; and

x is from 1 to 4,

and also at least one first synergistic component selected from the group consisting of ~~from the substance class of the organic or and~~ inorganic phosphorus compounds, and at least one second synergistic component from the substance class of the, ~~wherein the at least one second synergistic component is a nitrogen compound~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are identical or different and are C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, linear or branched, and/or phenyl.

3. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 1-~~or~~-2, wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are identical or different and are methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, tert-butyl, n-pentyl and/or phenyl.

4. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is methylene, ethylene, n-propylene, isopropylene, n-butylene, tert-butylene, n-pentylene, n-octylene or n-dodecylene.

5. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is phenylene or naphthylene.

6. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is methylphenylene, ethylphenylene, tert-butylphenylene, methylnaphthylene, ethylnaphthylene or tert-butylnaphthylene.

7. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is phenylmethylene, phenylethylene, phenylpropylene or phenylbutylene.

8. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7, which comprises claim 1, comprising~~ from 0.1 to 30 parts by weight of ~~phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these~~ ~~the flame retardant~~, and from 0.1 to 100 parts by weight ~~of the at least one first synergistic component, wherein the at least one first synergistic component is~~ of an organic phosphorus compound, and from 0.1 to 100 parts by weight of ~~a~~ ~~the~~ nitrogen compound, per 100 parts by weight of ~~the~~ thermoset composition.

9. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 8, which comprises claim 1, comprising~~ from 1 to 15 parts by weight of ~~phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these, and~~ ~~the flame retardant~~, from 1 to 20 parts by weight of ~~the at least one first synergistic component, wherein the at least one first synergistic component is~~ an organic phosphorus compound, and from 1 to 20 parts by weight of ~~a~~ ~~the~~ nitrogen compound, per 100 parts by weight of ~~the~~ thermoset composition.

10. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 9~~ ~~claim 1~~, wherein the ~~at least one first synergistic component is an organic phosphorus compound is selected from the group consisting of~~ triethyl phosphate, triaryl phosphates, tetraphenyl resorcinaldiphosphate, dimethyl methylphosphonate, and/or its ~~dimethyl methylphosphonate~~ polymers with phosphorus pentoxide, phosphonate ester, (5-ethyl-2-methyl-dioxaphosphorinan-5-yl)methyl methyl methanephosphonate, phosphoric ester, pyrophosphoric ester, alkylphosphonic acids and/or oxalkylated derivatives of ~~these~~ ~~alkylphosphonic acids~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 10~~ ~~claim 1~~, wherein the nitrogen compound is melamine,

melamine derivatives of cyanuric acid, melamine derivatives of isocyanuric acid, melamine salts such as melamine phosphate, melamine polyphosphate, or melamine diphosphate, dicyandiamide, or a guanidine compound, such as guanidine carbonate, guanidine phosphate, guanidine sulfate, and/or condensation products of ethyleneurea and formaldehyde, or ammonium polyphosphate.

12. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, comprising from 0.1 to 15 parts by weight of ~~phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphenophinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these~~the flame retardant, and from 0.1 to 100 parts by weight of the at least one first synergistic component, wherein the at least one first synergistic component is an inorganic phosphorus compound, and from 0.1 to 100 parts by weight of an~~the~~ nitrogen compound, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition.

13. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, comprising from 1 to 15 parts by weight of ~~phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphenophinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these, and~~the flame retardant, from 1 to 20 parts by weight of the at least one first synergistic component, wherein the at least one synergistic component is an inorganic phosphorus compound, and from 1 to 20 parts by weight of a~~the~~ nitrogen compound, per 100 parts by weight of the thermoset composition.

14. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one of more of claims 1 to 13~~claim 1, wherein the at least one first synergistic component is an inorganic phosphorus compound is selected from the group consisting of red phosphorus, ammonium phosphate and/or melamine polyphosphate.

15. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 14, which also comprises carbodiimides~~claim 1, further comprising at least one carbodiimide.

16. (Currently Amended) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 15~~claim 1, which is wherein the thermoset composition is selected from the group consisting of a molding composition, a coating or ~~and~~ a laminate made from thermoset resins.

17. (Original) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 16, wherein the thermoset resins are unsaturated polyester resins or epoxy resins.

18. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 17, which comprises~~claim 1, comprising the steps of mixing a thermoset resin with ~~a~~the flame retardant, made from phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these with ~~the~~ at least one first synergistic component from the substance class of the organic or inorganic phosphorus compounds and ~~the~~ at least one second synergistic component from the substance class of the nitrogen compounds ~~to form a mixture~~, and wet-pressing (cold-pressing) the resultant mixture at ~~a pressure~~ pressures of from 3 to 10 bar and at temperatures ~~a temperature~~ of from 20 to 60°C.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 1 to 17, which comprises~~claim 1, comprising the steps of mixing a thermoset resin with ~~a~~the flame retardant, made from phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these with ~~the~~ at least one first synergistic component from the organic or inorganic phosphorus compounds, and ~~the~~ at least one second synergistic component from the substance class of the nitrogen compounds to form a

mixture, and wet-pressing (warm or hot pressing) the resultant mixture at pressures a pressure of from 3 to 10 bar and at temperatures a temperature of from 80 to 150°C.

20. (Currently Amended) The A process for preparing flame-retardant thermoset compositions as claimed in one or more of claims 1 to 17, which comprises claim 1, comprising the steps of mixing a thermoset resin with a the flame retardant, made from phosphinic salt of the formula (I) and/or a diphosphinic salt of the formula (II) and/or polymers of these with at least one first synergistic component from the substance class of the organic or inorganic phosphorus compounds, and at least one second synergistic component from the substance class of the nitrogen compounds to form a mixture, and processing the resultant mixture at pressures a pressure of from 50 to 150 bar and at temperatures a temperature of from 140 to 160°C to give prepgs.

21. (New) A flame-retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein the melamine salt is melamine phosphate.

22. (New) A flame retardant thermoset composition as claimed in claim 11, wherein the guanidine compound is selected from the group consisting of guanidine carbonate, guanidine phosphate and guanidine sulfate.

23. (New) The process as claimed in claim 18, wherein the wet pressing step further comprises cold pressing.

24. (New) The process as claimed in claim 19, wherein the wet pressing step further comprises warm or hot pressing.